

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1 - 4. (Cancelled).

5. (Currently Amended) A push block device for displacing a workpiece relative to woodworking equipment, comprising:

a main body having a proximal end, a distal end, a longitudinal axis, and a first, generally flat working surface;

a handle component extending from said main body whereby when said first working surface is disposed in parallel facing relation to a top surface of a workpiece, said handle component is disposed predominantly vertically above said main body;

a heel component extending from said main body so as to have a first, operative position, wherein said heel projects vertically below a first plane of said first working surface, and a second, stored position wherein a bottom edge of said heel is disposed in or vertically above said first plane, said heel defining a second working surface disposed in a second plane defined at an angle with respect to said first working surface; and

at least one slip resistant pad secured to at least one of said first and second working surfaces,

wherein said heel component is resiliently retractable from the first, operative position to the second, stored position upon application of an external force, without demounting the heel component from the main body.

6. (Original) A push block device according to claim 5, wherein said at least one pad is over molded to said at least one working surface.

7. (Currently Amended) A push block device for displacing a workpiece relative to woodworking equipment, comprising:

a main body having a proximal end, a distal end, a longitudinal axis, and a first, generally flat working surface for engaging a top surface of a workpiece;

a handle component extending from said main body whereby when said first working surface is disposed in parallel facing relation to the top surface of the workpiece, said handle component is disposed predominantly vertically above said main body; and

a heel component extending from said main body so as to have a first, operative position, wherein said heel projects vertically below a first plane of said first working surface, and a second, stored position wherein a bottom edge of said heel is disposed in or vertically above said first plane, said heel defining a second working surface disposed in a second plane defined at an angle with respect to said first working surface, for selectively engaging a trailing end surface of the workpiece for displacing the workpiece,

wherein said heel includes a head portion defining said second working surface, and first and second legs, and

wherein said heel component is resiliently retractable from the first, operative position to the second, stored position upon application of an external force, without demounting the heel component from the main body.

8. (Original) A push block device according to claim 7, wherein said first and second legs are secured to said main body.

9. (Original) A push block device according to claim 8, wherein said first and second legs include pins for being disposed in correspondingly sized and shaped receptacles in said main body.

10. (Original) A push block device according to claim 9, wherein said pins are glued to said receptacles.

11. (Currently Amended) A push block device for displacing a workpiece relative to woodworking equipment, comprising:

a main body having a proximal end, a distal end, a longitudinal axis, and a first, generally flat working surface for engaging a top surface of a workpiece;

a handle component extending from said main body whereby when said first working surface is disposed in parallel facing relation to the top surface of the workpiece, said handle component is disposed predominantly vertically above said main body; and

a heel component extending from said main body so as to have a first, operative position, wherein said heel projects vertically below a first plane of said first working surface, and a second, stored position wherein a bottom edge of said heel is disposed in or vertically above said first plane, said heel defining a second working surface disposed in a second plane defined at an angle with respect to said first working surface, for selectively engaging a trailing end surface of the workpiece for displacing the workpiece,

further comprising a retention plate for securing said retractable heel to said main body,

wherein said heel component is resiliently retractable from the first, operative position to the second, stored position upon application of an external force, without demounting the heel component from the main body.

12. (Original) A push block device according to claim 11, further comprising at least one slip resistant pad over molded to said plate.

13. (Currently Amended) A method for advancing a workpiece relative to woodworking equipment with a push block comprising:

providing a push block including a main body having a proximal end, a distal end, a longitudinal axis, and a first, generally flat working surface; a handle component extending from said main body whereby when said first working surface is disposed in parallel facing relation to a top surface of a workpiece, said handle component is disposed predominantly vertically above said main body; and a heel component extending from said main body so as to have a first, operative position, wherein said heel projects vertically below a first plane of said first working surface, and a second, stored position wherein a bottom edge of said heel is disposed in or vertically above said first plane, said heel defining a second working surface disposed in a second plane defined at an angle with respect to said first working surface;

engaging a top surface of the workpiece with said first working surface; and

advancing said workpiece with said push block at least partway past said woodworking equipment while said woodworking equipment works upon said workpiece,

wherein said heel component is resiliently retractable from the first, operative position to the second, stored position upon application of an external force, without demounting the heel component from the main body.

14. (Original) A method as in claim 13, further comprising displacing said push block relative to said workpiece so that the pushblock overhangs a trailing end of the workpiece, and engaging said trailing end with said second working surface.

Claim 15. (Cancelled).

16. (Currently Amended) A push block device for displacing a workpiece relative to woodworking equipment, comprising:

a main body having a proximal end, a distal end, a longitudinal axis, and a first, generally flat working surface for engaging a top surface of a workpiece;

a handle component extending from said main body whereby when said first working surface is disposed in parallel facing relation to the top surface of the workpiece, said handle component is disposed predominantly vertically above said main body; and

a heel component extending from said main body so as to have a first, operative position, wherein said heel projects vertically below a first plane of said first working surface, and a second, stored position wherein a bottom edge of said heel is disposed in or vertically above said first plane, said heel defining a second working surface disposed in a second plane defined at an angle with respect to said first working surface, for selectively engaging a trailing end surface of the workpiece for displacing the workpiece,

wherein said push block main body and handle are molded from a plastic material,

wherein said heel component is resiliently retractable from the first, operative position to the second, stored position upon application of an external force, without demounting the heel component from the main body.

17. (Currently Amended) A push block device for displacing a workpiece relative to woodworking equipment, comprising:

a main body having a proximal end, a distal end, a longitudinal axis, and a first, generally flat working surface for engaging a top surface of a workpiece;

a handle component extending from said main body whereby when said first working surface is disposed in parallel facing relation to the top surface of the workpiece, said handle component is disposed predominantly vertically above said main body; and

a heel component extending from said main body so as to have a first, operative position, wherein said heel projects vertically below a first plane of said first working surface, and a second, stored position wherein a bottom edge of said heel is disposed in or vertically above said first plane, said heel defining a second working surface

disposed in a second plane defined at an angle with respect to said first working surface, for selectively engaging a trailing end surface of the workpiece for displacing the workpiece,

wherein said handle includes a grip portion spaced from said main body and a leg portion extending from said grip portion to said main body, and

wherein said heel component is resiliently retractable from the first, operative position to the second, stored position upon application of an external force, without demounting the heel component from the main body.

18. (Previously Presented) A push block device according to claim 17, wherein said legs extend from adjacent each longitudinal end of said grip portion to said main body.

Claims 19 - 23. (Cancelled).